



Week 1 Summary

1. Production for MY 2008/09 winter wheat and barley is forecasted to be lower than the previous year, particularly in the northern rainfed governorates due to poor precipitation during the planting and establishment of winter grains.
2. In comparison to the previous year, cumulative precipitation for MY 2008/09 remains well below normal since the start of the winter grains season (Figure 1).
3. MODIS NDVI (Crop Abundance/Vigor) for March 5th – 20th showed a significant departure from the 9Year average. The northern rainfed governorates showed the most decrease in crop abundance with concentrated areas of increase and decrease throughout the central and southern irrigated governorates (Figure 2). Additional data sources such as SPOT VEGNDVI sourced from the FAO Global Information and Early Warning System (GIEWS) further supports these findings (Figure 3).
4. Crop abundance maps derived from Quickbird high resolution imagery for AOI #14 (At Ta'min) and AOI #16 (Salahad Din) showed significant increases between January/February and March/April, thus indicating that the crop is progressing in this region (Figures 4 & 5). These sample areas are predominantly irrigated and contribute to a large proportion of total crop production within these governorates. The remainder of cropland in At Ta'min remains sparse (Figure 6).

* Provincial cropland area statistics will be updated before the May pre-lockup report (Tables 1 & 2).

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(Tables 1&2)

Wheat Area Forecast: MY 2008/09 (Thousand Hectare)										
Region	Governorate	2002/03	2003/04	2004/05	2005/06	2006/07	2007/08	2008/09	5-Year Average	Difference 5-Year Avg
North	Arbil	132.8	235.0	99.0	116.8	126.9	120.0	9.7	139.5	-93.1%
	Dahuk	121.5	128.9	98.3	102.3	90.8	100.0	49.2	104.1	-52.7%
	As Sulaymaniyah	163.3	109.2	70.1	153.1	120.4	120.0	55.8	114.6	-51.3%
	Ninawa	750.7	450.0	613.4	550.6	489.3	463.6	27.3	513.4	-94.7%
Central	At Ta'min	178.9	182.9	160.1	194.9	141.2	205.3	65.2	176.9	-63.1%
	Diyala	62.8	93.5	87.5	108.6	113.3	106.2	86.3	101.8	-15.2%
	Salah ad Din	109.8	125.0	106.7	110.3	107.9	107.2	103.3	111.4	-7.3%
	Baghdad	42.9	55.0	43.3	60.1	59.5	48.4	47.0	53.2	-11.8%
	Babil	47.1	82.8	49.4	67.7	68.1	65.4	75.8	66.7	13.7%
	Wasit	165.0	159.2	148.3	166.5	157.4	164.2	172.7	159.1	8.5%
	Al Qadisiyah	57.9	65.0	93.0	94.3	94.6	92.4	90.4	87.9	2.9%
	Karbala	5.8	5.0	5.9	7.4	4.0	2.3	5.7	4.9	16.5%
	Al Anbar	36.1	32.8	43.3	34.6	55.5	56.6	51.3	44.6	15.1%
	An Najaf	45.8	45.3	45.8	47.5	45.4	49.6	36.8	46.7	-21.2%
	Al Muthanna	6.2	17.5	18.3	12.2	12.1	11.2	9.9	14.2	-30.5%
South	Dhi Qar	20.1	20.4	31.9	45.9	60.8	59.3	42.0	43.7	-3.7%
	Maysan	55.4	62.5	77.0	88.1	87.2	94.5	65.2	81.9	-20.3%
	Al Basrah	13.4	16.4	16.0	14.0	17.2	16.9	12.9	16.1	-20.1%
Total		2015.6	1886.3	1807.2	1974.8	1851.6	1883.1	1006.5	1880.6	-46.5%

Data Sources: Satellite remotely sensed imagery, COSIT time series data

Barley Area Forecast: MY 2008/09 (Thousand Hectare)										
Region	Governorate	2002/03	2003/04	2004/05	2005/06	2006/07	2007/08	2008/09	5-Year Average	Difference 5-Year Avg
North	Arbil	109.7	149.0	86.2	270.7	242.5	250.0	12.1	199.7	-93.9%
	Dahuk	32.0	39.1	27.4	36.5	40.7	50.0	17.4	38.8	-55.2%
	As Sulaymaniyah	122.3	43.4	52.2	124.7	108.2	110.0	40.9	87.7	-53.3%
	Ninawa	652.7	525.0	529.1	614.0	594.6	615.0	29.5	575.5	-94.9%
Central	At Ta'min	24.8	37.5	10.4	23.1	28.9	30.0	9.4	26.0	-63.8%
	Diyala	22.7	95.0	38.1	37.0	35.3	35.0	37.4	48.1	-22.3%
	Salah ad Din	16.2	30.3	39.0	28.4	14.8	15.0	21.6	25.5	-15.1%
	Baghdad	4.8	32.5	5.1	7.7	6.0	5.0	8.0	11.3	-28.7%
	Babil	12.4	17.3	20.9	19.9	23.7	25.0	23.9	21.3	12.1%
	Wasit	48.2	46.9	55.5	68.9	63.2	60.0	61.4	58.9	4.2%
	Al Qadisiyah	43.0	85.0	78.1	77.2	79.7	80.0	80.2	80.0	0.3%
	Karbala	2.2	0.6	2.1	2.5	2.6	3.0	2.6	2.1	19.4%
	Al Anbar	1.9	2.5	2.9	2.3	3.4	3.0	3.2	2.8	13.8%
	An Najaf	1.4	0.5	1.8	1.9	1.6	2.0	1.2	1.6	-22.8%
	Al Muthanna	22.7	32.8	37.6	23.1	27.3	25.0	22.2	29.2	-23.9%
South	Dhi Qar	43.0	42.9	64.3	81.6	74.8	75.0	71.5	67.7	5.5%
	Maysan	30.4	38.2	66.4	70.6	64.7	65.0	45.8	61.0	-24.9%
	Al Basrah	9.1	7.1	6.0	5.0	5.5	5.0	5.1	5.7	-10.2%
Total		1199.7	1225.5	1123.0	1495.2	1417.5	1453.0	493.4	1342.8	-63.3%

* Not Official USDA data

Crop Calendar of Iraq

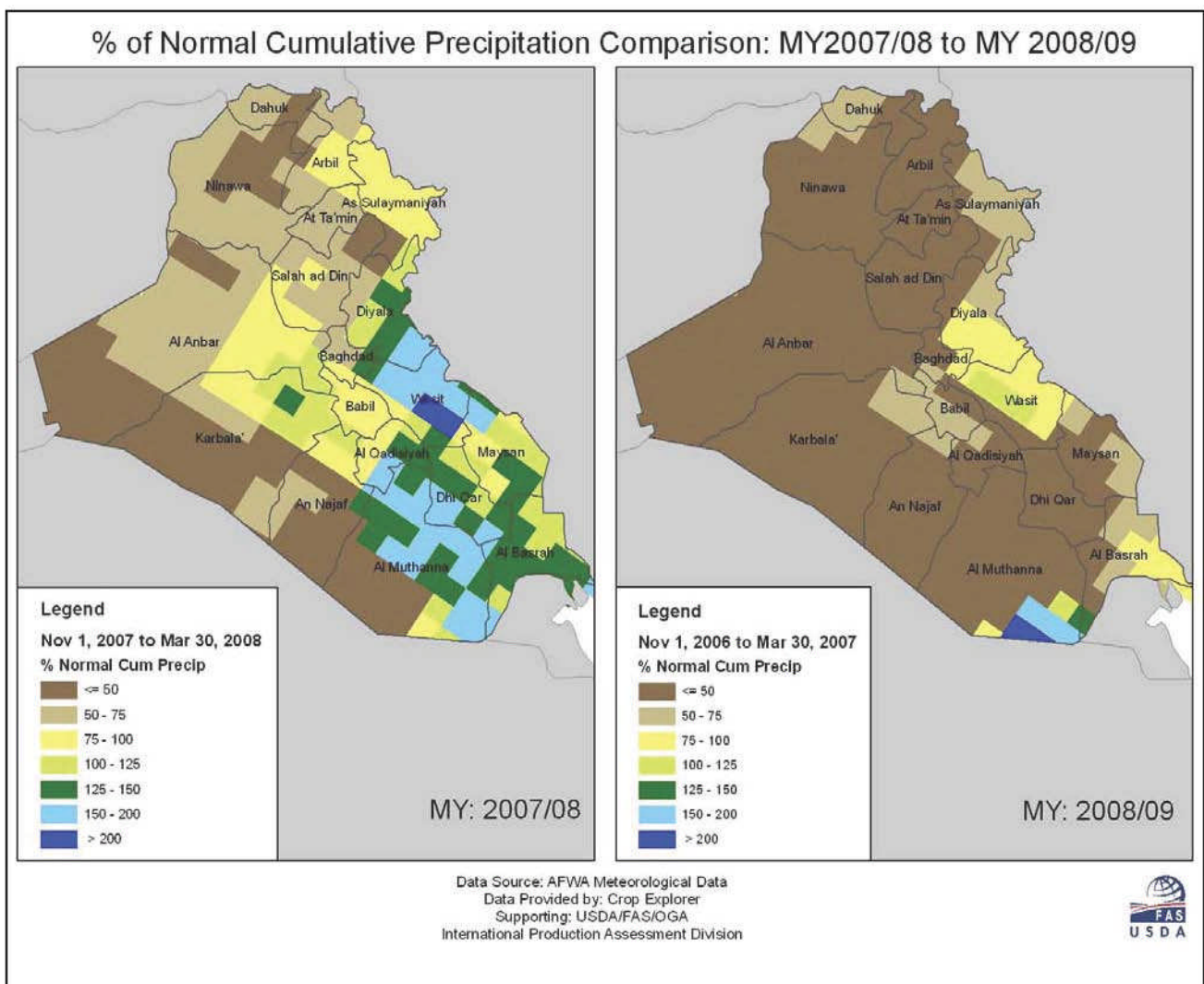
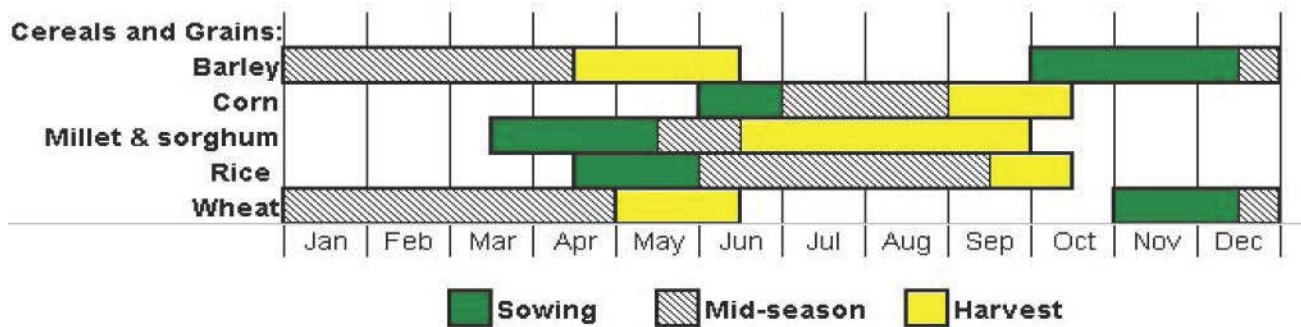


Figure1:AFWA percent of normal cumulative precipitation: comparison between MY2007/08 and MY 2008/09

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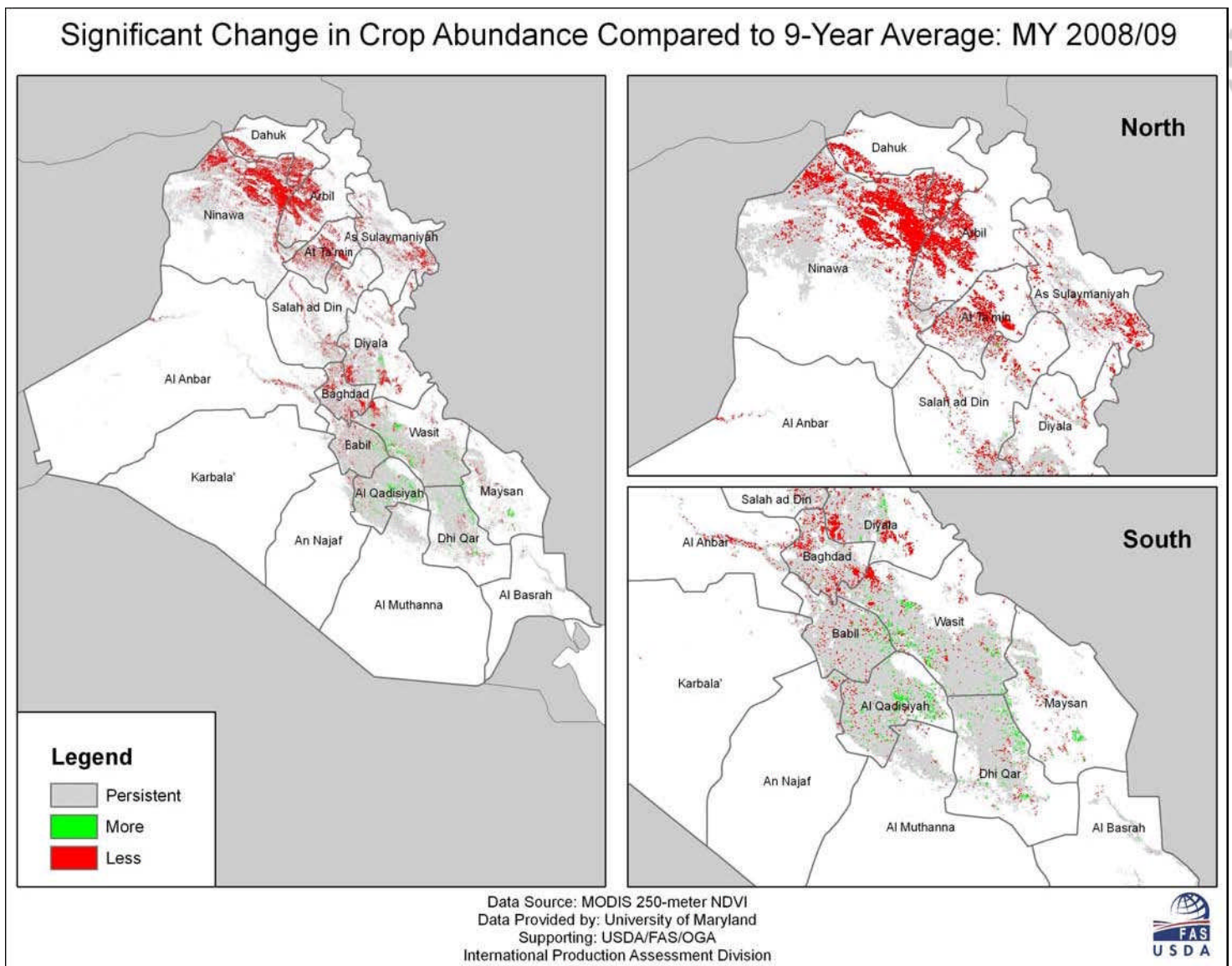


Figure2. Departure of MODIS 250-meter NDVI from the 9-Year average (March 5th to March 20th Composite).

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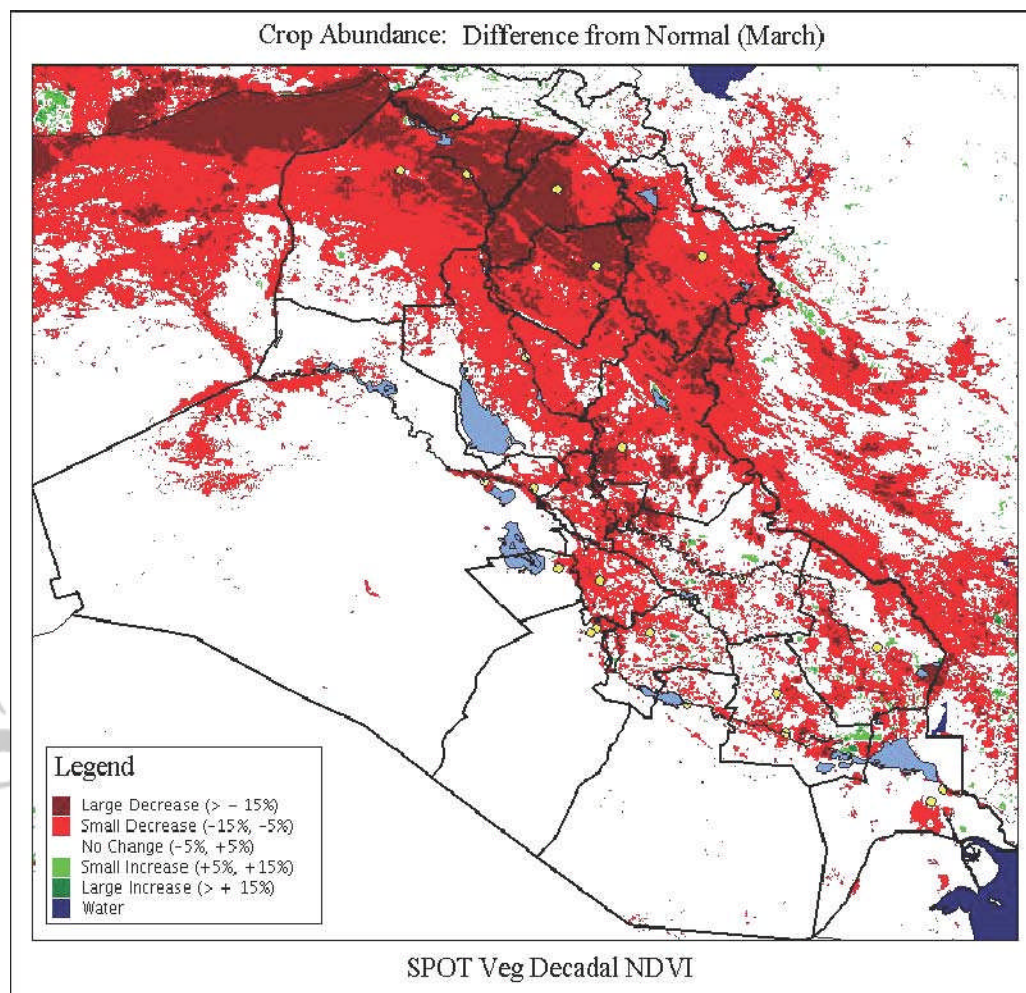


Figure 3: Data sourced from FAO Global Information and Early Warning System.

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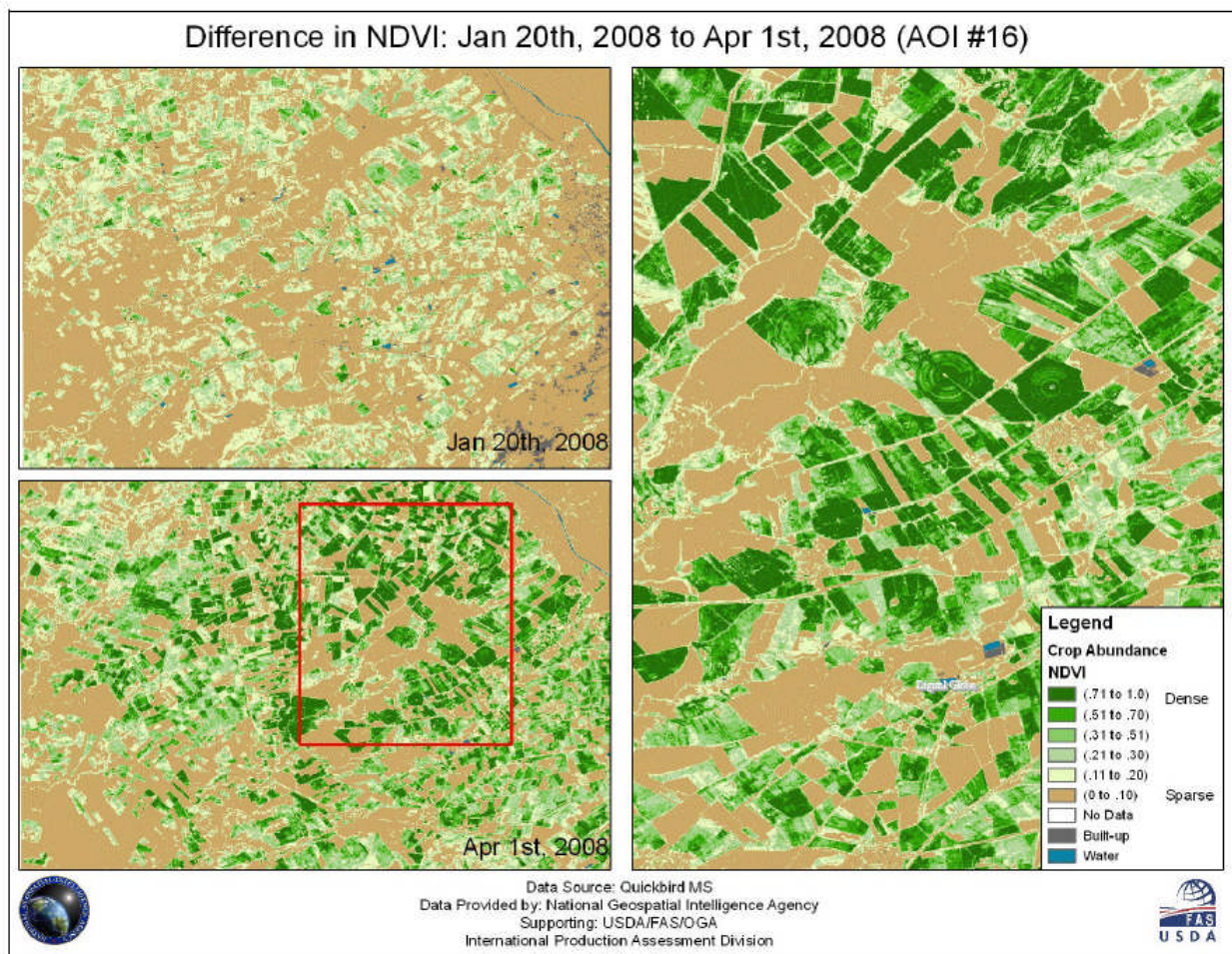


Figure 4: Crop abundance comparison from January 20th, 2008 to April 1st, 2008 (AOI #16 Salah ad Din).

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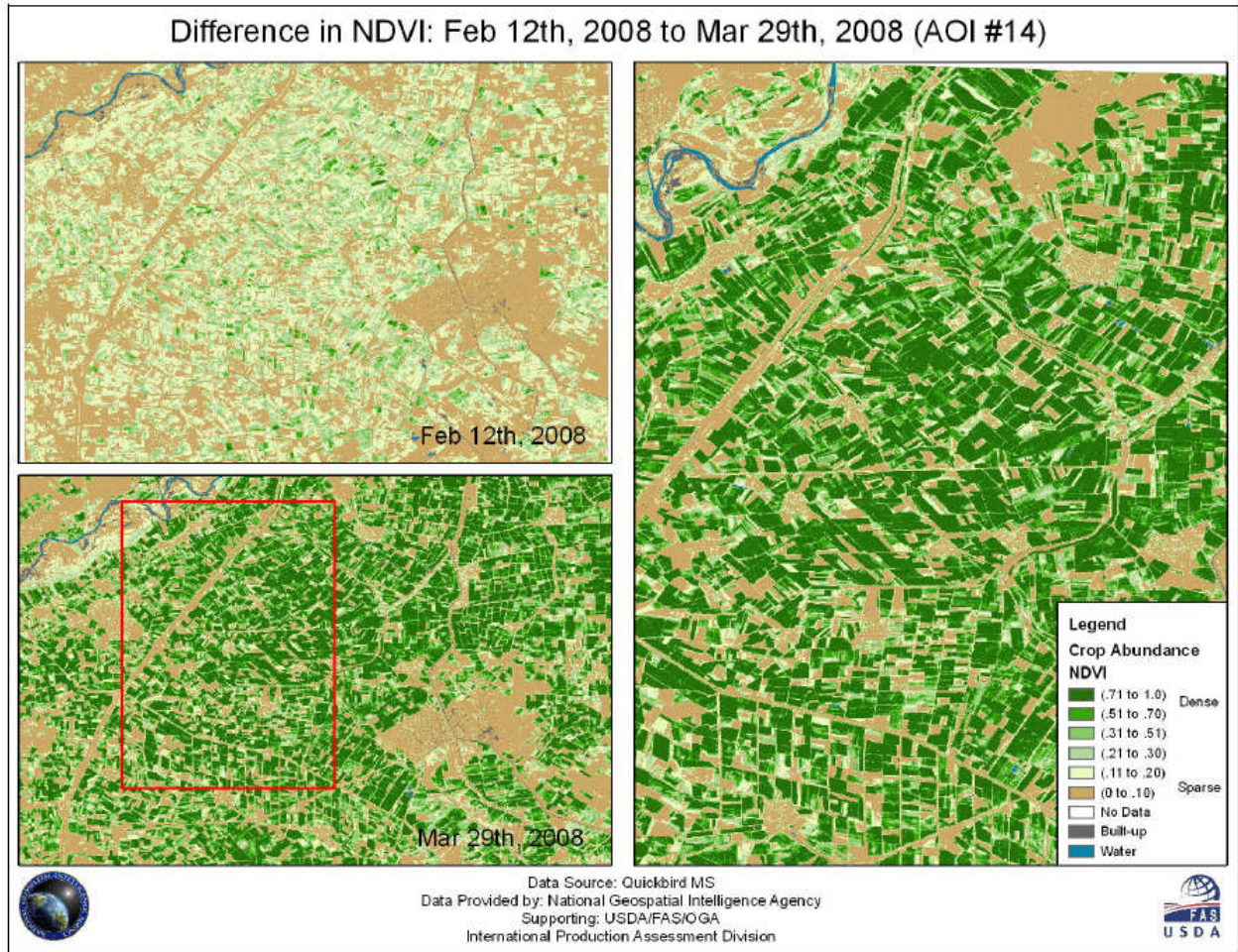


Figure 5: Crop abundance comparison from February 12th, 2008 to March 29th, 2008 (AOI #14 At Ta'min).

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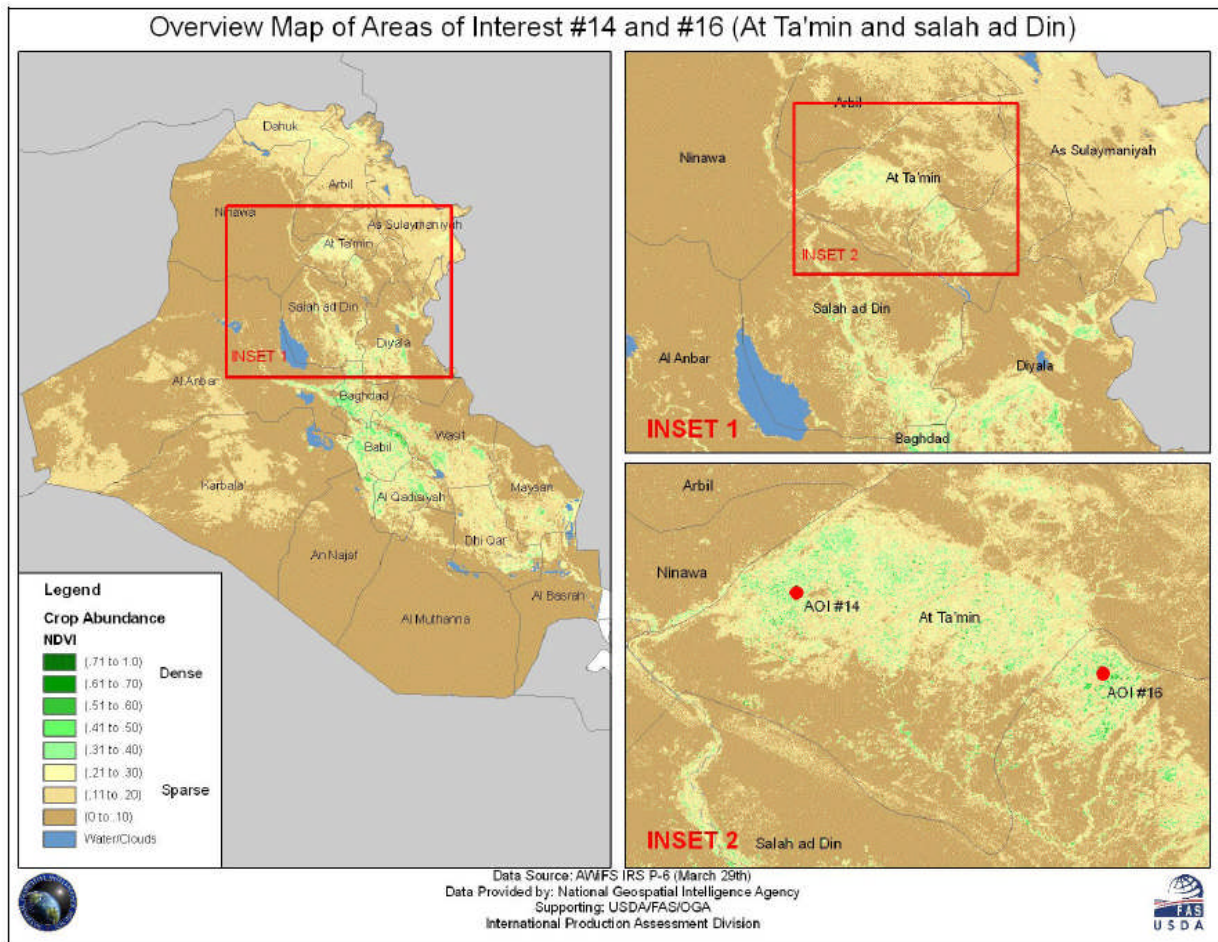
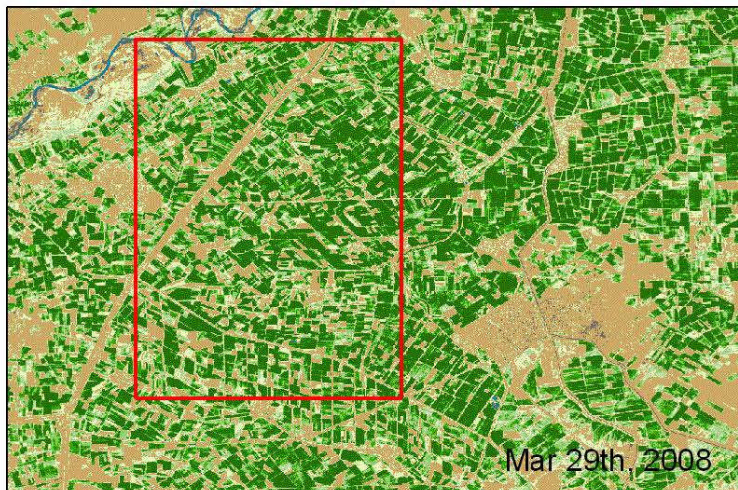
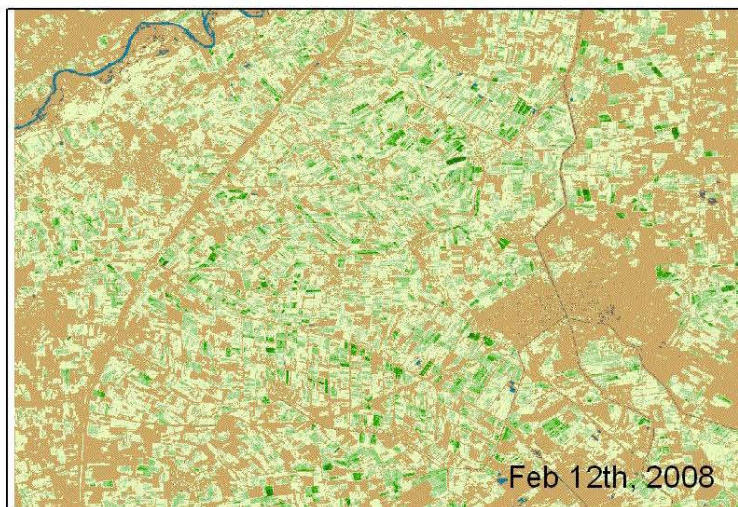


Figure 6: Overview Map of crop abundance in the central governorates of At Ta'min and Salah ad Din.

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Difference in NDVI: Feb 12th, 2008 to Mar 29th, 2008 (AOI #14)



Data Source: Quickbird MS
Data Provided by: National Geospatial Intelligence Agency
Supporting: USDA/FAS/OGA
International Production Assessment Division

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Overview Map of Areas of Interest #14 and #16 (At Ta'min and salah ad Din)

